



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING




JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

February 25, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Approval of Criteria for the No Child Left Behind Act, Title II, Part A(1):  
Improving Teacher and Principal Quality Grants

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is responsible for helping school districts improve student achievement by improving teacher and principal quality and ensure that all teachers are highly qualified. The proposed criteria for Title II, Part A(1) Improving Teacher and Principal Quality statewide activities grants are aligned with its purposes and allowable activities described within the No Child Left Behind Act.

Grant funds awarded through this program are meant to substantially improve teacher quality. Grant awards will be made to ensure that all core academic teachers are highly qualified for their assignment and, when necessary, provide technical assistance to the districts in order to meet this requirement. Activities may include professional development designed to improve instructional practices and student academic achievement or assist in the integration of technology into the curriculum.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the Criteria for the No Child Left Behind Act, Title II Part A(1), Improving Teacher and Principal Quality Grants, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated February 25, 2008.

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**Criteria for the No Child Left Behind Act, Title II**  
**Part A(1): Improving Teacher and Principal Quality Grants**

The State Board of Education has adopted as its Strategic Goal "Attain substantial and meaningful improvement in academic achievement for all students/children with primary emphasis on high priority schools and students."

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will serve to further attain the above goal.

**PRIORITIES, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS THAT THESE CRITERIA SUPPORT**

Ensuring Excellent Educators  
Elevating Educational Leadership  
Embracing the Information Age  
Ensuring Early Childhood Literacy  
Integrating Communities and Schools

**BACKGROUND/PURPOSE OF GRANT**

X Competitive    ☐ Formula    ☐ New    ☐ Continuation (*check all that apply*)

The purpose of the *Title II, Part A(1) State Activities Grant* is to increase the academic achievement of all students by helping schools and districts improve teacher and principal quality and ensuring that all teachers are highly qualified. Through the program, state and local educational agencies (SEAs and LEAs), and state agencies for higher education (SAHEs) receive funds on a formula basis.

In exchange, agencies that receive funds are held accountable to the public for improvements in academic achievement. *Title II, Part A(1)* provides these agencies with the flexibility to use these funds creatively to address challenges to teacher quality whether they concern teacher preparation and qualifications of new teachers, recruitment and hiring, induction, professional development, teacher retention, or the need for more capable principals and assistant principals to serve as effective school leaders.

**CRITERIA**

Date criteria were last approved New

X Defined in Legislation    ☐ Defined in Department's Approved Grant Application to the Funder    ☐ Proposed by staff

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) will award approximately \$500,000 of the Title II, Part A(1) State Activities Grant Funds to support the following activities:

- Provide technical assistance to the LEAs, including helping teachers become highly qualified.
- Develop and implement mechanisms to assist local education agencies and schools in effectively recruiting and retaining highly qualified teachers.

#### **ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS/TARGET POPULATION TO BE SERVED BY GRANT**

Michigan public schools, public school academies, intermediate school districts, and other agencies and organizations that have a history of coordinating activities for the use of statewide grants, particularly Title II, Part A funds, and have served teachers and principals in those high-priority schools.

#### **TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE**

For fiscal year 2007-2008, there is approximately \$500,000 available to fund MITAP and this competitive sub-grant award. The Office of Professional Preparation Services proposes to manage a competitive process for the awarding of the available funds to a sub-grantee to act as the fiscal agent for the management of the grant. Additional available funding will be awarded as it becomes available, in support of the activities allowed by the federal legislation.

#### **LEGISLATION**

Title II, Part A(1) of the No Child Left Behind Action of 2001.

#### **OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT/PROGRAM CONTACT**

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